

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A ceramic honeycomb filter having porous cell walls comprising pluralities of a first and a second ceramic honeycomb structures, each having large numbers of flow paths partitioned by cell walls, which are bonded in the direction of said flow paths, predetermined flow paths being sealed by plugs, plugs formed at ~~one end of at least one honeycomb structure~~ the downstream end of said first ceramic honeycomb structure positioned on an upstream side of an exhaust gas path being bonded to at least part of plugs formed at ~~one end of a~~ the upstream end of said second honeycomb structure adjacent to said end of this honeycomb structure, and a cell wall thickness and a cell wall pitch of said first honeycomb structure being same with those of said second honeycomb structure, respectively.

2. (currently amended): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein ~~at the~~ first ceramic honeycomb structure with predetermined flow paths sealed by plugs at one end is bonded to ~~at the~~ second ceramic honeycomb structure with predetermined flow paths sealed by plugs at both ends, such that said first ceramic honeycomb structure is on an upstream side.

3. (previously presented): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1 , wherein a ratio A/B of the length A of the plugs at one end of one honeycomb structure to the length B of the plugs at one end of the other honeycomb structure is 1/9-9/1 in the bonded plugs.

4. (currently amended): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein ~~pluralities of~~ the first and second ceramic honeycomb structures are provided with an integral outer wall.

5. (previously presented): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein a catalyst is supported by said cell walls and/or at least part of said plugs.

6. (currently amended): A method for producing a ceramic honeycomb filter with predetermined flow paths sealed by plugs, wherein in the bonding of ~~pluralities of a first and second~~ ceramic honeycomb structures each having large numbers of flow paths partitioned by cell walls in the direction of said flow paths, plugs formed at ~~one end of at least one~~ the upstream end of said first ceramic honeycomb structure positioned on an upstream side of exhaust gas path are bonded to at least part of plugs formed at ~~one end of a~~ the upstream end of said second honeycomb structure adjacent to this honeycomb structure.

7. (currently amended): The method for producing a ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 6, comprising cutting one monolithic ceramic honeycomb structure substantially perpendicularly to said flow paths to form ~~pluralities of a first and second~~ ceramic honeycomb structures, ~~abutting the ends of the cut ceramic honeycomb structures, such that at least part of plugs in said ceramic honeycomb structures at ends are abutted to each other~~ said first and second ceramic honeycomb structures being abutted to each other at cut ends, so that they are bonded to each other via plugs formed at the cut ends in the direction of the flow paths.

8. (currently amended): The method for producing a ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 6, wherein at least part of plugs formed at the upstream~~ene~~ end of said second ceramic honeycomb structure have protruding portions.